

ample—have no doubt that the Imperial Government meant exactly what it said when it declared that neutral ships would be sunk when met in the forbidden zone. German threats have been made before. Always have they been fulfilled.

After the appeal to the neutrals and the great relief because of the absence so far of any overt act on the part of Germany, the attention of Washington to-day was focussed on the case of the American liner St. Louis, announced to sail for Europe to-morrow and to enter the forbidden zone long after the last day of grace set by the Germans.

For reasons best apparent to the official and diplomatic mind, the Department of State apparently was greatly embarrassed by the case presented by the officers of the American liner. It was realized that if the St. Louis sailed unconvoyed, unaccompanied in any way, and was torpedoed without a warning, a country of anger would go up from the coast and a demand for the heads of the men responsible.

The responsibility, however, hardly belongs on the State Department. Officials there realize that it cannot refuse to permit the St. Louis to sail because of a hostile act against a German ship. Mr. Wilson declared this government would not submit, and that it could not advise that the St. Louis be armed or convoyed, because that would be a hostile act against Germany as Mr. Wilson insists on believing is friendly until an overt act is committed. There was nothing to do; so the department tried to do nothing.

Responsibility is on President. The responsibility is with the President. If anything effective is done the order must go from him to the Navy Department. It is difficult to act according to the rules when one finds himself in a twilight zone. The danger is of falling into a twilight sleep. It appears to be a time for cutting Gordian knots of red tape and diplomatic usage.

Behind the studied effort to give the effect of "everything as usual" there are signs of energetic efforts in all departments of the government to make ready quickly for the worst.

The responsible heads of the military and naval forces are carefully studying the various possibilities. It is realized that blunders to begin with may prove tremendously costly; that the United States authorities, by plunging ahead without careful thought, might easily defeat its own purpose.

For example, the War Department already is considering now just how far it will be wise to interfere with contracts which American munitions firms now have with the British and French governments. It may be wiser not to interfere at all, but to continue as large as possible a supply of arms and ammunition to England and France.

American manufacturing plants have been quick to place themselves at the disposal of the Government.

entire disposal of this government. The Savage Arms Company is now filling a big contract of the Lewis machine guns for one of the Entente Allies. The United States needs machine guns very badly, but it may be better policy to supply the Allies first.

Break with Austria Near: U. S. Tries to Avert It. Washington, Feb. 4.—Continuation of diplomatic relations between the United States and Austria-Hungary was declared here to-night to rest on a very slender thread, with a rapid exchange of views taking place in an eleventh hour hope of saving an apparently hopeless situation.

Two reasons—the condition in which it would leave prisoners whose interests are now cared for by American diplomats and the utility of any further purely formal step—make officials loath to extend the break with Germany to Austria.

America's moral protest against Germany's policy of sea ruthlessness is felt to have been adequately driven home by the most serious step short of war that this country could take. Similar action against Austria-Hungary is thought not to be justified unless Austria-Hungary precipitates the necessity herself.

Cares for 1,000,000 Prisoners. It is estimated that the United States, through the belligerent interests she represents in Austria and the Austrian interests she represents in hostile countries, cares for well over 1,000,000 military prisoners, besides several hundred thousand civilian prisoners. If Austria were to go through the formality of endorsing Germany's stand the relief work would be entirely withdrawn.

Austria, it is pointed out, has never been shown to be operating submarines on a large scale. Many in the Mediterranean are thought to have been German submarines under the Austrian flag, on the ground that for the most of the war Germany has not been at war with Italy, and could not, therefore, sink Italian ships.

Officials are reticent about discussing the situation, and will not confirm or deny reports that Austria has informed the United States of her adherence to Germany's submarine policy. The only official announcement has been concerning the receipt of a long dispatch from Ambassador Penfield, at Vienna, yesterday noon.

This dispatch is known to have been confused and to have raised questions which must be solved before a decision is reached by the State Department. An inquiry went to Ambassador Lansing to-day, and Secretary Lansing is

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giving the original dispatch his personal attention to-night. The situation may not be cleared for some days.

Tarnowski's Status Unsolved. Meanwhile, the status of Count Tarnowski, the new Austrian Ambassador, remains unchanged. Having met Secretary Lansing and other State Department officials yesterday and asked for an appointment with President Wilson to present his credentials, no further action will be taken till the situation clears up. If a break comes the new envoy will probably never meet the President.

COLUMBIA TO AID NATION. Meeting to-morrow Will Discuss Plans for Service—Dr. Butler to Speak. A general meeting of the faculty, officers, students and all other persons connected with Columbia University will be held to-morrow at noon in the university gymnasium, to discuss the international situation with the view of formulating plans of service to the country.

The president, Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, will open the meeting with an address.

Griffith Plans Real War Film. David W. Griffith, the motion picture producer, will sail for Europe soon to begin work on a picture which will have the war as its background. Mr. Griffith will weave actual war scenes into the story of the film. He is said to have obtained the consent of the Allied governments.

Gerard May Be Detained. This will complicate the situation as regards Gerard and the returning

Americans, for nobody expects that Germany will permit Gerard to go until assured of Bernstorff's safe return. And as Germany is believed to be not overanxious for Bernstorff to come home—he himself would rather remain out of Germany for the rest of the war—there is apparently small reason to hope that any ready cooperation will be forthcoming from Berlin in arranging means.

There is, of course, no immediate concern for the safety either of the American Embassy staff or the other Americans in Germany. But if war with Germany comes, as seems inevitable, the position of Americans in that country would be uncomfortable, if not actually perilous. The best they could expect would be imprisonment in a detention camp for the duration of the war.

Ambassador Bernstorff himself is taking the situation philosophically. He is in no hurry to go home. He is rather hoping, in fact, for internment at Palm Beach, or perhaps in the Adirondacks, his favorite winter resort.

BRITAIN WATCHES FOR NEXT MOVE BY PRESIDENT. Believes War Cannot Be Avoided, but Realizes Need of Going Slow. HOPES FOR SEIZURE OF GERMAN SHIPS. Vessels Would Help in Relieving Lack of Tonnage. By ARTHUR S. DRAPER. (By Cable to The Tribune.) London, Feb. 4.—Beyond news of the recall of Ambassador Gerard and the handing of his passports to Ambassador von Bernstorff the British government at this writing has received no official information of developments in America, with the exception of official advice from the American Embassy this morning that the United States had ceased to represent British interests in Germany. The embassy was advised by the State Department that it had not yet been decided what neutral would be entrusted with German interests in England.

Until the situation clears it is unlikely that any official statement will be issued here. All that can be said now is that the government and public are watching America with the greatest interest.

Believe War Is Certain. From this viewpoint an early declaration of war by the United States, precipitated by some "overt act" of Germany, is believed to be inevitable. The wisdom of going slowly is clearly understood and appreciated, however.

The seizure of German ships in American ports and the possibility of their being used later to relieve the shortage in the world's shipping is an exceedingly delicate subject, thought to the British people and officials.

It was especially noticeable that, although Parliament does not meet again until Wednesday, scores of members of Parliament have been seen to-day to discuss the new situation. To-night the political clubs are buzzing with excitement.

All the newspapers are filled with stories and comments on the decision of the President. Americans temporarily or permanently resident here are extremely gratified at their statements to the press show. Many of them are worried about their return to America, not fearing the trip, but wondering whether the disarrangement of steamship schedules will prevent their early departure.

The news of the severance of diplomatic relations with Germany was telephoned to the American Ambulance by the American Embassy. The news was immediately announced to the staff surgeons, the young American college students, who drive autoambulances and act as orderlies, and the nurses. Round about of cheers were given for President Wilson.

Anxious Over 2,000 Americans. The renewed confidence and determination of the people are strikingly shown in many ways. They have taken the German threat as a personal challenge. The honor system regarding food is accepted the same as if it were accompanied by restrictions and penalties by Parliamentary act.

One point rather agitating the American community in London is the position of the 2,000 Americans now in Germany. The general impression is that as far as possible they will try to reach neutral soil within the next few hours, as otherwise their position is likely to be unenviable.

Many of them, according to advices received to-night by way of Copenhagen, have planned to journey by way of Switzerland and Spain, rather than through Denmark. Once they reach London there will be no difficulty in taking care of them.

No news has been received concerning Ambassador Gerard and the other American officials in Germany. The embassy here is ignorant whether he will come to London or attempt to go home by the northern route. It is generally believed that he has already provided for the American colony in Germany.

Belgians in Grave Situation. Much concern is expressed in all quarters regarding the Belgian relief work that has been conducted by the American Commission. While no final action will be taken by officials of the commission here until word has been received from Herbert C. Hoover, the chairman, who is still in America, members of the London office are working steadily to evolve some plan for the continuation of the work.

Unless the American workers receive orders from Germany to get out of the occupied areas in Belgium and Northern France operations will go on as usual. If these workers are forced to retire the work will be turned over to some other neutral.

The commission will continue to send food to the refugees in any event, officials say. Advices from Rotterdam to-day stated that relief ships would be permitted to land there, provided the British authorities passed them. While the latter are not likely to accede to this request, it is hoped that a compromise can be effected whereby relief ships may be examined at Rotterdam after traversing the free zone around Scotland.

It is realized that hundreds of thousands of persons would starve to death if the relief work were allowed to come to an end even for a short time, and determined efforts will be made in any case to assure the continuation of a part if not the whole of the work.

Wilson Took Only Course Open, Says British Press. London, Feb. 5.—The general tenor of the editorial opinion of the break between the United States and Germany is that there was only one course open to President Wilson, consistent with American honor and dignity, and that he has taken it.

"President Wilson's decision, which was both just and courageous," says "The Morning Post," "will put new spirit into the hearts and minds of the lesser neutral nations, which for two years have suffered the most atrocious injuries ever done by one country to another at sea since the Barbary corsairs."

"We are entitled to congratulate ourselves that the truth of what we constantly affirmed respecting the character and aims of the German government has now received the indorsement of a great and friendly nation. The American spirit of pride, justice and independence has again proved itself."

"The Daily Chronicle," after contending that President Wilson could not have acted otherwise without ab-

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Friday, February 2, 1917. No. 17

The Rock Island Settlement. Samuel Untermeyer, counsel for the stockholders' committee of the Rock Island Road, when shown an account in the morning papers of Tuesday last of the proceedings in the United States Court of Chicago, in which it stated that Messrs. Daniel C. Reid and others of the old directors had been permitted to settle the suit brought by Mr. Untermeyer's client, "by paying back money to the company in restitution," said:

"The account gives an entirely false impression and does Messrs. Reid, Moore and their associates grave injustice."

"It was stated in open court, and I have repeatedly stated in connection with this case that it has at no time been claimed by anyone connected with the case that any of the old directors was guilty of any fraud or wrongdoing, or that any of them profited in any way personally by the transaction on account of which the suit was brought, or that they have by making the settlement admitted any legal or moral liability whatever."

"Our claim was based on the theory that the directors acted without legal authority."

"This settlement is part of the plan of reorganization and involves no admission by or reflection upon anybody, as these gentlemen have consistently refused to entertain any adjustment that might involve a personal reflection upon the integrity of their management as directors."

ICE-CRUSTED LINER DOCKS HERE AFTER ROUGHEST VOYAGE. Captain Thomsen of Frederick VIII Reports Atlantic Deserted. The Scandinavian-American liner Frederick VIII from Copenhagen via Kirkwall arrived here yesterday with 721 passengers after the roughest passage she has ever encountered. Her hull was crusted white with ice and tons of frozen spindrift covered her masts and superstructure. She was pounded hard by heavy head seas all the way across, and off the Grand Banks a comb broke over the starboard quarter, smashing several windows on the promenade deck.

Captain Thomsen said that the Atlantic was deserted. He sighted only one vessel within a few days. She was a Norwegian freighter westbound. During her compulsory call at Falkland, the vessel's mail was taken off and all passengers scrutinized. Among the mail passengers were five German women, believed to be the wives of German ship masters detained here by the war.

Julius Lay, American consul at Berlin, who has come home on leave, was informed of the break in diplomatic relations with Germany when a wireless bulletin was sent to the vessel on Saturday. He will report to Washington within a few days.

The White Star liner Cedric from Liverpool, supposed to come over practically the same course as that taken by the Frederick VIII, was free from ice. Her officers declined to say what route she had taken, but it is thought that she ran to the south and stopped off Bermuda on her journey westward.

The Cedric reported having seen no war ship or merchantman through the run from Liverpool. She carried one passenger.

ROOSEVELT CANCELS TRIP. Colonel Theodore Roosevelt has cancelled his proposed trip to Jamaica. He was to have sailed on Wednesday, Saturday, on learning that the President had broken off relations with Germany, he cancelled his reservations.

Colonel Roosevelt had nothing to say of his plans for raising a division if the War Department grants his request for authority.

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How carefully are they handled by those entrusted with their care? Think how easily duplicate keys might be obtained, and the risk to your store should they fall into improper hands. One of the things Holmes Service does is to guard against the improper use of duplicate keys.

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Hudson Seal Coats 45, 42 and 40 inch models, Skunk trimmed. Heretofore \$175.00	125.00	Hudson Seal Coats Kolinsky, Skunk, Taupe Fox, Ermine or Mole trimmed. Heretofore \$325.00	250.00
Hudson Seal Coats 45 inches long; of all Seal or Skunk trimmed. Heretofore \$245.00	175.00	Hudson Seal Coats Several models, Skunk, Kolinsky or Mole trimmed. Heretofore \$345.00	285.00

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Moire Caracul Coats New semi-fitted belted models; Taupe Fox or Skunk trimmed. Heretofore \$325.00	250.00	Moire Caracul Coat New semi-fitted belted model; collar and cuffs of Hudson Bay Sable. Heretofore \$395.00	450.00
Natural Gray Squirrel Coat 45 inches; collar, cuffs and border of Skunk. Heretofore \$375.00	285.00	Scotch Mole Coat 48 inches long, collar and cuffs of Mole. Heretofore \$595.00	395.00

Fur Muffs

10.00 Heretofore \$15.00	16.00 Heretofore \$20.00	13.00 Heretofore \$18.00	10.00 Heretofore \$15.00
19.00 Heretofore \$29.50	23.00 Heretofore \$32.00	23.00 Heretofore \$35.00	26.00 Heretofore \$37.50

Fur Neckpieces

Natural Raccoon Heretofore \$15.00	10.00	Black Wolf (dyed) Heretofore \$20.00	15.00
Hudson Seal Heretofore \$29.50	19.00	Natural Nutria Heretofore \$16.50	12.00
Natural Beaver Heretofore \$22.50	15.00	Scotch Mole Heretofore \$45.00	35.00
Natural Skunk Heretofore \$29.50	20.00	Black Lynx Heretofore \$32.50	22.00

Fur Capes and Fur Stoles

Mole Capes Ermine trimmed. Heretofore \$175.00	135.00	Hudson Seal Capes All Seal or trimmed. Heretofore \$85.00	65.00
Kolinsky Stoles Trimmed with tails. Heretofore \$185.00	150.00	Mole Stoles Of real Scotch Mole. Heretofore \$150.00	125.00

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What do you do when you make a will?

The following steps must be taken:

1. You first decide who is to receive your property;
2. You put your wishes into correct legal form;
3. You name a competent executor who is certain to carry out the provisions of your will with business-like fidelity.

We recommend that you take the matter up with your family lawyer. He, better than you possibly could, will interpret your wishes. He understands the necessary legal phraseology, for, after all, your will is a legal document. Eventually your will must be carried out in accordance with the law. Your executor's fees are limited and are fixed by law.

Formerly either relatives or friends were named as executors. As individuals they were, of course, usually conscientious, but they often lacked sound business judgment. Unwise investments were often made—unnecessary expenses incurred. Estates shrank in value. Hardships to the heirs resulted.

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